Criteria for Import of Petro Products and Natural Gas

†3034. SHRI ANANTRAYDEVSHANKER DAVE; Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATUR.\L GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the conditions on which permission is being granted by Government to import petroleum products and natural gas in the country;

(b) whether government are providing any financial assistance to the companies importing said products;

(c) if so, the conditions on which above assistance being provided to the companies; and

(d) what are the criterion under which permission has been granted by Government to these companies for selling the said products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) Import of controlled petroleum products are made by Indian Oil Corporation as canalising agency keeping the demand and supply position as also the economics of import in view. Such import is made as per the provision of Oil Economy Budget (OEB) finalised in the beginning of each financial year. Import of decontrolled products is made on market consideration by public sector and private companies. The conditions of import are stipulated in theEXIM policy. Import of Natural Gas/Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) is on Open General List.

(b) and (c) No financial assistance is being provided by the Government to the companies for their imports of petroleum products and natural gas.

(d) At present Motor Spirit (MS), High Speed Diesel (HSD) and Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) arc allowed to be marketed by public sector oil companies only. Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG), Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO), Low Sulphur Heavy Stock (LSHS) etc. are allowed to be marketed by private companies also under parallel marketing scheme. Also private parties are allowed to market most of the remaining products.

Production of crude by ONGC

3035. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that production of crude by the ONGC has not improved;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.